

Ontong Java language

The **Ontong Java** (or *Leuangiua*, *Lord Howe*, *Luaniua*) is a Polynesian language located on the Ontong Java Atoll, also known as the Luangiua Atoll or Lord Howe island, of the Solomon Islands. There are two dialects that are also spoken on the island; which are Luangiua and Pelau. Ontong Java is commonly used by all speakers, young and old. There is approximately 2,370 residents^[3] of Ontong Java Atoll and has approximately 2,400 (estimated) speakers living on the atoll.

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Classification

Ontong Java is closely related to the Ellicean languages of Polynesia. Which is also a closely related language of Sikaiana, Takuu, and Nukumanu in Papua New Guinea.^[3]

Phonology

The phoneme inventory of this language is poorly studied, and many sources have conflicting phoneme inventories.^{[4]:226}^[5]

Consonants^[4]^[6]^[note 1]

	<u>Labial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Nasal</u>	m		ŋ	
<u>Plosive</u>	p		k	ʔ
<u>Fricative</u>	v	s		h
<u>Lateral</u>		l		

Ontong Java	
Luangiua	
Native to	Solomon Islands
Region	Ontong Java Atoll
Native speakers	2,400 (1999) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Austronesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Malayo-Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Oceanic<ul style="list-style-type: none">Polynesian<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ellicean<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ontong Java</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	ojv
Glottolog	onto1237 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/onto1237) ^[2]

Vowels^[4]

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid	e		o
Low		a	

An older source lists two additional vowels, /ɑ/ and /ə/.^[5]

Grammar

Ontong Java word order is normally VSO^[3] and SVO^[7] created through the Ontong Java community.

References

1. Ontong Java (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/ojv/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Luangiua" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/onto1237>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. "Ontong Java" (<https://www.ethnologue.com/language/ojv/>). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 2019-10-10.
4. Salmond, Anne (1974). *A Generative Syntax of Luangiua: A Polynesian Language* (<https://archive.org/details/generativesyntax0000salm>). The Hague, Netherlands: Mouton & Co. NV. pp. 256 (<https://archive.org/details/generativesyntax0000salm/page/256>).
5. Lanyon-Orgill, Peter A. (1944). *A Study of the Leuangiua Language*. The Hague, Netherlands: Luzac & Co. p. 24.
6. Krupa, Viktor (1973). *Polynesian Languages: A Survey of Research* (<https://archive.org/details/polynesianlangua0000krup>). The Hague, Netherlands: Mouton & Co. NV. pp. 108 (<https://archive.org/details/polynesianlangua0000krup/page/108>).
7. Tomlin, Russell S. (2014-02-03). *Basic Word Order (RLE Linguistics B: Grammar): Functional Principles* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=8FLIAgAAQBAJ&pg=PA2032&lpg=PA2032&dq=luangiua+grammar&source=bl&ots=brGKTbbJUW&sig=ACfU3U1xLFfEOfu5CXmpRinNFJQzeD3kTg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjJo9iCk5HIAhWXIDQIHdw3Bd4Q6AEwDnoECAkQAQ#v=onepage&q=luangiua&f=false>). Routledge. ISBN 9781317933793.

[1]

Notes

1. This source says there is one liquid consonant (r / l), but does not specify which one.

External links

- Materials on Ontong Java are included in the open access Arthur Capell collections (AC1 (<http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/collections/AC1>) and AC2 (<http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/collections/AC2>)) held by Paradisec.

Further reading

- Thorpe, Mary Anne (1968). *A Transformational-generative Syntax of Luangiua* (Thesis). University of Auckland.
 - Hogbin, H. I. B. "Notes on a grammar of the language of Ontong Java". *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*. **5**: 823–853.
 - 1. Mugler, France; Lynch, John (1996). *Pacific Languages in Education* (https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=VWNrvm_cb7MC&oi=fnd&pg=PA1&dq=ontong+java+language&ots=Rj-Yo3Ucha&sig=guqZ_SN7m86JW_HRLkuWhCNYCIE#v=onepage&q=ontong%20java%20language&f=false). editorips@usp.ac.fj. ISBN 9789820201231.
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